

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

In the Matter of:

TAKI TOOO

DCA-03-MM-035

Monday, June 16, 2003

INTERVIEW OF:

LINDA BUELL

PRESENT:

BILL WOODY
K. LAWERNSON
P. WOOD
LIEUTENANT GILMORE

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. WOODY: The time is now 15:25 and may we
3 get your name for the record?

4 MS. BUELL: Linda Buell.

5 MR. WOODY: And your middle initial?

6 MS. BUELL: J.

7 MR. WOODY: Okay. And what is your
8 occupation?

9 MS. BUELL: I am self employed.

10 MR. WOODY: Self employed.

11 And would you tell us what your company
12 does?

13 MS. BUELL: I do all the all booking and the
14 bookkeeping for the company. The bookings, to book
15 the passengers. I send them out in the mornings. I
16 pay all bills. I do all the accounts receivable, I
17 do all the taxes and make sure that insurance and
18 things are in place and surveyors, I get ahold of
19 people, I run for parts sometimes, anything that
20 doesn't have directly to do with the boats, that is
21 what I do.

22 MR. WOODY: Okay.

23 MS. BUELL: And answer a lot of phone calls.

24 MR. WOODY: Okay. Are you involved in any,
25 you are not involved with the boats. Are you
26 involved in parts for them?

27 MS. BUELL: I don't, I get parts, I mean,
28 yeah, the captains usually tell me what they want
29 and I, I will order or a lot of times they will just
30 call it in themselves, but I tell them when it is
31 there and take it down to them. I make sure there
32 are fish cleaners on the dock when the boats come
33 in, and I sit at the office in the mornings when
34 they are going out. If it is a morning that looks a
35 little iffy, I stay in case the people, they can
36 come back and get their refunds.

37 MR. WOODY: And what are the office hours?

38 MS. BUELL: Our normal hours are, in the
39 Summer are 9:30 to 4:30, in the Spring, excuse me,
40 9:30 to 4:30 Monday through Saturday and 10:30 to
41 2:30 on Sunday and my daughter, my other daughter
42 does it for me on Sundays usually.

43 MR. WOODY: We heard the boats getting under
44 way at like 6:30 in the morning.

45 MS. BUELL: The passengers are told to check
46 with the office at 5:30, the boat departs at six
47 o'clock.

48 MR. WOODY: Are you there at 5:30 when they
49 check in?

50 MS. BUELL: I am usually there about quarter
51 after five, yes.

52 MR. WOODY: Five. Okay.

53 Can you explain, though, the hours that the

1 office, 9:30 to 4:30?

2 MS. BUELL: Monday through Saturday.

3 MR. WOODY: Monday through Saturday, yes.

4 But, if you are there in the morning, you open the
5 office up or --

6 MS. BUELL: I open it and I stick around.
7 We have another business and I go down and take care
8 of the Laundromat or I might just stick around and
9 do some book work. Sometimes I have to run home.
10 It is a long ride, but, if my one daughter is not
11 there to take care of the animals, we have a small
12 farm. We have animals that have to be taken care of
13 and I drive all the way back. And sometimes I go
14 down to the sailboat and take a nap. It doesn't
15 happen very often.

16 MR. WOODY: Okay. Tell us about the events
17 of Saturday. What --

18 MS. BUELL: Saturday, we knew we had a lot
19 of people coming and so, I got there a little bit
20 earlier than usual, about five o'clock, and it
21 doesn't matter how, how early you get there, I don't
22 care if it three in the morning, there will be a
23 couple of people there waiting for you. So, I
24 signed some people in and I remember signing the
25 first two in on the Taki Too and they were the only
26 ones for awhile. And we had a large group coming
27 from, what we call the The Ron Leader Group, from
28 Portland. They have gone with us for several years.
29 And he brought me a sign-up sheet which takes a lot
30 of pressure off because every
31 passenger has to and is required by the Coast Guard,
32 sign in their name and their address and their phone
33 number. And we ask females, too. And anyway he
34 was, he was probably one of the first ones there and
35 he had his list and his cards. Sent them off, they
36 were go get something to eat, because they knew they
37 didn't need to be on the Norwester until almost six
38 o'clock.

39 And then my group started arriving. And
40 usually by, I think about, by about 5:35 they were
41 all signed in, while I was doing this and it is not
42 always my preference, but the captains come in and
43 pick up any fishing gear they need, they talk for a
44 few minutes, they check for the weather and since it
45 was an iffy morning, one of the captains sat down,
46 it was Al Barney, sat down and called the Coast
47 Guard. He has the 32 foot uninspected, six
48 passenger vessel. So I am going to help all these
49 customers and take their money and tell them where
50 to go, and you know, that it is going to be a great
51 day fishing. It just might be a little hard getting
52 over the bar, there might be a little wave.

53 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Al Barney was in your

1 office?

2 MS. BUELL: Yeah, yeah, he, because he had,
3 he had three of our passengers scheduled.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That was the owner
5 of the Bull Frog?

6 MS. BUELL: Yes, the Bull Frog, excuse me.
7 We had overflowed, not overflowed really, but we
8 don't, when you are fishing 16 people is about
9 right. You can take more, you know, and we have
10 taken more, but we, we think the passengers are more
11 comfortable with 16, 15 or 16 people on the Taki Too
12 and 20, 22 on the Norwester. And that keeps them
13 under, well, within the regulations for who we can
14 carry, how many we can carry. So, on Al's boat, one
15 of the passengers weren't showing up and we were
16 stuck two. Well, he has his economics, too, and he
17 doesn't like to run with less than three. And so,
18 we gave those two guys the option of going on one of
19 the boats. Now both of those guys had said they
20 would rather go on a less crowded boat and I said,
21 well, it is full, so we will send you with Al. So,
22 it wasn't their first choice, but we said, you know,
23 we will just refund your money, since it doesn't
24 look like he is going to be able to go. He said if
25 they wanted to stay on the boat, he would go out, he
26 would even go out there with two and he will do that
27 for me, you know, if it is important. And wait
28 around, but he felt that, he might have to wait
29 around a long time.

30 So, I asked my husband to go on down to the
31 docks and see if they wanted their money back or if
32 they wanted to go ahead and put one on each, the
33 Taki Too and the Norwester.

34 MR. WOODY: Now, the Bull Frog, is that part
35 of your operation or is that separate?

36 MS. BUELL: He is a separate office and his
37 boat and a separate operation, but he books under
38 me. I can book people for him.

39 MR. WOODY: I see, okay.

40 MS. BUELL: And then we just take an office
41 fee.

42 MR. WOODY: Okay.

43 MS. BUELL: And, you know, that is all there
44 is to that. It is just a real simple thing.

45 MR. WOODY: So you took, so he went out and,
46 the two folks to cover your vessels.

47 MS. BUELL: Yes. Because the last thing I
48 heard when he went out was that he was probably
49 going to go ahead and try it.

50 MR. WOODY: Mitchell Buell went down and --

51 MS. BUELL: My husband.

52 MR. WOODY: Right

53 MS. BUELL: I just said if you go down there

1 and Al has decided not to go for sure, then because
2 the last thing I heard he was still going to go.
3 And see if those two guys want to split up and go on
4 boats that have quite a few more people on it than
5 what they originally wanted.

6 And so, anyway, I knew that morning that
7 there was some question. I monitor the radios, each
8 captain tells me when he leaves. They will tell me
9 when they have crossed the bar, so that I know
10 whether to go ahead and leave or not. So, and they
11 will tell me, you know, like it is a flat ocean
12 today, so, we will see you at noon, you know.

13 MR. WOODY: Okay.

14 MS. BUELL: Like that. Or they might say,
15 well, I don't know, we will try, we will try this
16 spot and we will see how they do, because, you know
17 --

18 MR. WOODY: Yes. And --

19 MS. BUELL: Yes, yeah, it is a flat ocean
20 so, they didn't say that, because today was a rough
21 bar, Saturday was the rough bar. And, like if I
22 said, I was leaving, they would have said, no, wait.
23 Okay.

24 MR. WOODY: Okay.

25 MS. BUELL: Because they have done that to
26 me before. But, I knew better. So, and then my
27 husband asked me if I wanted to go out and watch the
28 boats cross the bar, it is kind of a local past
29 time. There is nothing wrong with it. Everybody
30 just likes to watch them go over the bar. And I
31 said, no, the last time I did it when it was a rough
32 bar, I didn't like it. It made my stomach flip flop
33 when they went through. I am staying here. My son
34 is on the captain on one. I have seen it twice now
35 when one time it was coming in from a tuna trip with
36 all the captains and crew and it was coming round
37 and they said, oh, come watch us come in, well, the
38 waves were so high, I could only see his radar mast,
39 that much above it, as he was going across and I
40 just went, oh, no, no, and he turned, and I could
41 see him a lot better. But, anyway, I like watching
42 it when it is nice out as opposed to zipping out.

43 So, anyway, I said, no, I will stay in the
44 office because maybe somebody will decide to come
45 back and I have got plenty to do. So, he said,
46 okay, I am going out there. And so, then I was
47 just listening to them, you know, I knew the
48 Norwester had gone out. I think Tron called back
49 after he was out and he said, now don't you tell my
50 mom you saw that. And he knew I could hear it.
51 Anyway, and he told the other ones to wait. He
52 said, it was a little rough coming out, so, you,
53 guys, might want to wait awhile. And no captain

1 would ever tell another captain what to do. He just
2 gave a suggestion. It should be calming down soon
3 and they all knew that, because they knew when the
4 tide change was, that was, they always check that,
5 too.

6 Anyway, and then I heard Tron say something
7 to sea, Dana, but I didn't hear, didn't catch the
8 whole thing, you know, I am doing a lot of stuff. I
9 don't always hear every word. And then I heard Bob
10 say something and I said, Bob, what are you talking
11 about? And he said standby, standby. Well, I don't
12 think I ever heard, any of them have ever told me to
13 standby before. I said, okay, standing by. And
14 just then the phone rang and it was the Coast Guard
15 and they said, your EPIRB on the Taki Too has gone
16 off. And I said, oh, gee, and he said, well, we
17 just need somebody to call back in with the numbers
18 on the side, the 15 digit numbers on the side and
19 let us know if it is okay. And I said, oh, yeah,
20 maybe a passenger hit it or something. Or they can
21 fall, anything can happen to them. And I said, and
22 I said, okay, I will do it right away, and then I
23 said, well, no, wait a minute, I will call you back
24 in three or four minutes because the bar is a little
25 rough and I want to make sure they are across it
26 before they are distracted by something like that.

27 And he said, okay, that is fine, just call us back.
28 And I hung up the phone and then Joe Oaktrot(ph)
29 called from the Siggy G, who had decided not to go
30 that day, I am not sure why. It might have been not
31 enough people, I don't know why. And he said, Linda,
32 the Taki Too has capsized. And, I, I just, it
33 shocked me, I said, oh, my God. And he said, well,
34 I will call the Coast Guard and tell them the EPIRB
35 is for real. And so I immediately called the Coast
36 Guard back and they informed me that they had
37 already had a helicopter there. I could not believe
38 that. So, it was like a minute and they already had
39 a helicopter in the air.

40 MR. WOODY: -- you call back on the EPIRB,
41 did they give you a telephone phone to call back or
42 did you --

43 MS. BUELL: Yes, yeah, they gave me a phone
44 number, it was laying right in front of me, I mean,
45 because they wanted me to call back and give them
46 the numbers, so they could turn off their whatever
47 that goes off.

48 So, anyway, and then after that, it just
49 took me a few minutes and I said, oh, my God, I
50 didn't know what to do. Those passengers are going
51 to go down and all of a sudden I realized my
52 daughter was in that boat, you know, she is on a lot
53 of different boats and things, I panicked. And I

1 went running out and I didn't see my car, I had
2 parked it in a different spot because there was so
3 many people in the parking lot. And it was kind of
4 hidden behind where my son's Land Charger. And so I
5 flagged down some people going down the street, and
6 I thought they had taken it down to the, the docks,
7 because sometimes Tami will do that if her stuff,
8 she has a got lot of stuff and I just would walk
9 down and get it. But, they took me down there and
10 then it wasn't there and then I remembered where I
11 had parked it. So, they let me off and I turned on
12 my flashers and I went out to the bar, and I parked.
13 And there were people, there were people all over
14 the beach and I went running down the beach. I
15 don't even have any ligaments in one knee, but I ran
16 all the way. And then they told me that they had
17 her. I collapsed for a few minutes and then I got
18 up and -- the 100 foot and got in the car with her.
19 And she couldn't pull her feet in, she couldn't
20 move. She was so cold.

21 And she was talking real funny, and she,
22 her head hurt. I thought probably she had just
23 sustained a real bad head injury. And it was really
24 hard to get her warm, because she was so wet. And
25 somebody gave me a leather man tool to cut off her
26 sweatshirt, it weighed a ton. I am going to tell
27 her she shouldn't wear a sweatshirts any more. I
28 can't believe how much water it held.

29 Anyway, we got that cut off, I got that cut
30 off of her and I told them that I wanted to go to
31 the hospital and they said, well, the ambulances are
32 on their way and I said, no, take me to the
33 hospital, Jeff, if you don't mind, I have been in
34 other emergencies, we can get their faster.

35 And so he jumped in the car and turned on
36 the heater and we got her feet, which were really
37 stiff, and then we got her down to the hospital.
38 She, wanted to keep her talking. She got mad at me.

39 She was -- so bad. Well, no free, and I wasn't
40 actually, I was just trying to say now you have got
41 do these, you have got to these, you have got to
42 stay warm, you have got to get this on you, you
43 know, we have got to get this sweatshirt off and
44 stuff like that. Anyway, it was great because she
45 was talking. And I kept telling her where we were
46 and got her to the hospital and she was there for
47 probably a half hour before that ambulance got
48 there.

49 Maybe my time sense was wrong, but --

50 MR. WOODY: Were any other people from the
51 accident at the hospital when you got there?

52 MS. BUELL: Oh, no, we were the very first.

53 MR. WOODY: You were the first.

1 MS. BUELL: The very first. We live out in
2 the country and we have had, you know, kids with --
3 and stuff like, you know, it can take a half hour
4 for the ambulance to get there. I can be at the
5 hospital in 20 minutes.

6 MR. WOODY: I see.

7 MS. BUELL: So, anyway, and I mean, even
8 though this was a lot closer because of it is --
9 hospital as a house.

10 Anyway, they put in there and I wouldn't
11 leave her and they said you couldn't be in the
12 emergency room and I said, no, I was going to be
13 there for my daughter. But, I stayed out of their
14 way. And they asked me, they said, we have got a
15 lot of people coming in, so when they come in, you
16 have to leave. I said, okay, that is fair, I will
17 do that. And they put one of those blow up air warm
18 blankets and it sure was great. And they did a CAT
19 scan and said her brain was okay. And you know, did
20 their IVs and everything. And they had quite awhile
21 to work on her before the next ones came in. And
22 then I left as the next ones were coming in, so.
23 And Sharon was there, and I didn't want to call her.

24 I was trying to get ahold of Bob Bales, Captain
25 Bales wife, Jerry, to go up there and tell her in
26 person that there had been an accident and she
27 needed to come to the hospital. And she was awake
28 and she heard something on the scanner.

29 MR. WOODY: I didn't follow the last of what
30 you were saying here. You, you talked Mrs. Bales.

31 MS. BUELL: I was trying to get her on the
32 phone.

33 MR. WOODY: Okay. Okay. All right.

34 MS. BUELL: To go up to Sharon and get her
35 to, to, you know, to tell her personally.

36 MR. WOODY: To tell Captain Davis' wife.

37 MS. BUELL: Yeah, I didn't want to call her
38 and wake her up and tell her that.

39 MR. WOODY: Okay.

40 MS. BUELL: So, and anyway, then they, they,
41 shortly after that, Tami was moved up to a room,
42 because she was stabilized. She was doing well.

43 MR. WOODY: And how long was she in the
44 hospital?

45 MS. BUELL: She was in there for, from when
we got there and I have no clue what time that was, until
about they released her about 5:30, we were waiting for you,
guys we didn't know it was like this, you know.

49 MR. WOODY: Yes.

50 MS. BUELL: And that you had, somebody had
51 to come from Washington, D.C., so we hung around
52 there until I think about seven. But, they actually
53

1 released her about 5:30.

2 And then she went and ate a hamburger,
3 because they wouldn't feed her all day. She was
4 starving. They gave her some Jello.

5 MR. WOODY: This sounds like a good place to
6 stop and see if anyone else has any questions unless
7 there is --

8 MS. BUELL: I am done, yes.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did they depart right
10 on schedule, 6:00 a.m?

11 MS. BUELL: You know, I think the Taki,
12 let's see, did Bob go, I am not sure which one left
13 first. Because Doug didn't call me immediately at
14 six. I think he called me about 6:10 and said, I am
15 underway. And I think he might have been out a
16 couple of minutes before he called me. Because I
17 was already talking to Bob, getting underway. So,
18 that is what they tell me. I am underway with and
19 they tell me how many passengers they have got. I
20 am underway with 19, I am underway with 16, I am
21 underway with, you know, whatever the number is.
22 And I make sure that is the right count.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you write it down
24 somewhere?

25 MS. BUELL: I don't write it down, but I
26 have the passenger logs right there and I know the
27 number, see, and they have to have that number.

28 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. A few
29 questions about the Captain. His physical condition
30 --

31 MS. BUELL: He bounced in the door that
32 morning. You know, he was in great shape. He came
33 in, he was getting something for Mitch and he was
34 joking with people and laughing and, and he was
35 bouncy and happy.

36 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. His eyesight,
37 he wore glasses and they weren't, were they a thick
38 -- types or were they just --

39 MS. BUELL: Oh, they were a little thicker
40 than normal, but not, not that type.

41 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And to your knowledge
42 he had no --

43 MS. BUELL: What I remember about Doug is he
44 didn't have a hat on, and I didn't know why. I
45 didn't want to sound -- But, his hair was kind of
46 sticking up a little bit, you know. I remember
47 that. Doug without a hat.

48 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And to your knowledge
49 Doug didn't have any medical conditions, medications
50 that he took?

51 MS. BUELL: No, we don't usually ask that.
52 They do have to pass a physical every couple of
53 years. And if there is any requirements then --

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That is a physical
2 for the Coast Guard or physical for --

3 MS. BUELL: For his captain license.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Captain license.

5 MS. BUELL: And I am sorry, I really don't
6 know how often that is. I, I, you know, they can't
7 get their certificates without that. They can't
8 keep them, or whatever.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You monitor VHS from
10 your, from your office. Do you actually listen to
11 it or do you just turn it down or --

12 MS. BUELL: Oh, no, I like to listen to
13 them. Yeah, I listen to them. I only turn it down
14 when a couple of waters come on or -- somebody that
15 --

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And you don't recall
17 the time when Tron, was it, that said you may want
18 to wait?

19 MS. BUELL: He said that, I know, you know,
20 I really I can't tell you the time. And I usually
21 expect them to cross the bar about 6:30. And it
22 wasn't too long after that, you know, and then a few
23 things happened and I am thinking, well, one of them
24 might decide to turn back, so, I have to stay here
25 and let's see, you know, most of the people on that
26 boat paid cash, you know, but, Tron's boat was a
27 full run on a full boat, so it was just one credit
28 card and I said, well, I don't have to refund the
29 easy one. That is difficult. So, you know, and I
30 was thinking, you know, I had told the people to
31 hold their fish tickets in case they couldn't fish,
32 and they came back, because if they are filled out,
33 then I can't give them their refund back.

34 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You say maybe one
35 might have had to turn around, so --

36 MS. BUELL: Sometimes one captain will turn
37 around and the other won't. I specifically, I
38 remember, the first time that happened, when I was
39 running the office, it was Bob Bales and all the
40 other captains had gone and Bob said, Linda, I am
41 not going. I am bringing my people back. It is
42 just not right for me. And I said, that is fine, I
43 am here. I said bring them on back. And then
44 another time I was actually sleeping on the cot and
45 they came knocking on the door and said, we didn't
46 go, we need refunds. And I said, oh, crap. Okay. I
47 will get up there as soon as I can.

48 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- good type ribbing
49 that the two might have gone out and the third one -
50 -

51 MS. BUELL: Nobody ever says a word.

52 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

53 MS. BUELL: That would be almost

1 sacrilegious.
2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you
3 MS. BUELL: Nobody teases about that.
4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.
5 MS. BUELL: You would never call a captain
6 chicken or anything else. I have never heard one
7 word said by any other captain or any deck hand or
8 anything else. He said, oh, Bob decided to turn
9 back this morning. And I am giving refunds, and it
10 is not, I would tell Mitch that and he would say,
11 oh, okay, well, do you have the money or did you put
12 it in the bank already. Sometimes they might be out
13 there for two hours, but if they don't fish, they
14 bring them back in, you know, if the wind is too
15 much for the drift, then you can't stay on the
16 drift, they can't fish.
17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.
18 MS. BUELL: We don't give half days.
19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.
20 MR. WOODY: Anyone else have any questions
21 about the events?
22 All right. We ask you now, you seem to
23 have a pretty good idea of how many times people do
24 not go sea, how -- you said you have records, if
25 somebody --
26 MS. BUELL: Yeah --
27 MR. WOODY: -- turn around or --
28 MS. BUELL: Yeah, I can do that. Yeah, I -
29 -
30 MR. WOODY: I want to ask you to do that,
31 but I know you are busy today.
32 MS. BUELL: Yeah.
33 MR. WOODY: We would like for you to --
34 MS. BUELL: I can give you some. Some of
35 them are in the form of a logsheet with a big X, has
36 canceled on it. And I can, you know, because it is
37 --
38 MR. WOODY: Okay.
39 MS. BUELL: -- some of them would be like
40 this March we had a lot of bad weather during the
41 Spring break and I have a couple of people here that
42 want to go and five and six here, and you know, a
43 couple here. And we were, because it was Spring
44 break, we kept pushing them off until a good day.
45 Now those didn't get logged in and you don't see
46 that we didn't go because the captain said we are
47 not going.
48 MR. WOODY: It was just a weather --
49 MS. BUELL: Well, I can show the logbook
50 from March and you can see that I kept crossing
51 people off and entering their names later or
52 something like that. So, then that was because the
53 captain said, no, it is too rough out there. We are

1 not going.

2 MR. WOODY: Okay.

3 MS. BUELL: And, and then after that we had
4 some bad predictions, and of course, they didn't
5 come true at all, and so that, and this happens
6 almost every year, sometime in April, the
7 predictions are very wrong, and the captains say we
8 won't make the decision until that morning. We will
9 go look at the bar. And so, many, many times they
10 will drive out and look at the bar, in the morning,
11 that is one reason why we don't run out before dark,
12 because they need to, enough light to see the bar,
13 and you will see all the captains' trucks out there,
14 all of them talking about it. All of them saying,
15 well, look there is a good spot. It is settling
16 down, I think we can make it. Or they decide not to.

17
18 One day, you know, I need to tell you this
19 story about that. It is a great story. We had all
20 decided not to go, right and we have huge groups
21 that day. We had a company group that always goes
22 with Al, it is called the -- Tavern, and they were
23 staying out there at Barview Park a lot of them, and
24 Joe Overfelt, from the Siggy G was the only one that
25 was still out there in his boat. All our boats had
26 told me in the office, they came in and they said,
27 we are not, we don't think it is good enough to go.
28 And I said, oh, okay, you, guys, come up here and
29 tell my customers that. I had 50 people standing in
30 the office and they are going, when are we going.
31 And I say, well, let's just wait for the captains
32 get here, you know, go ahead and sign up but don't
33 pay me any money yet. And I made all of them stand
34 there at the counter and tell those people that we,
35 you don't want to be out there today. We are not
36 going. You would be sorry if we went out there.
37 The boats can take it, we can, but, you, guys, will
38 not be happy with your trip and most of you will be
39 sick. And so, they told them that.

40 And so, then afterwards, we knew that Joe
41 was still out there circling. That is what they do
42 to wait. And we all drove out there to watch Joe go
43 over the bar, you know, and Joe made a few, he knew
44 we were watching, so he pretended like he was going,
45 nosed out there like they do, you know, and then he
46 would make a circle. And we were laughing, saying,
47 come on, Joe. Are you going or not? Not, not
48 anything about whether, whose decision it was or
49 not, anyway. And so he teased us a couple of times,
50 but he went back in. But, the longer they were
51 watching while he was doing that, the better the bar
52 got.

53 And Doug is sitting there saying, I could

1 have gone, you know, I know it was a good day. I
2 could have gone. Do you think we could go get those
3 people out of their beds that we sent back? And I
4 said, no, Doug, it is okay. It will be better
5 tomorrow. It is fine. He says, yeah, but, but,
6 they are a special group. I could take them out.
7 And I said, no, no, no, I know the bar is all better
8 now, but it was seven o'clock or closer to eight, I
9 guess, yeah. So, he does love, he did love to go
10 out, but, he knew that he made a decision and we --

11 MR. WOODY: I heard the name Joe, what is
12 his last --

13 MS. BUELL: Joe Overfelt. That was just a
14 day that he, he hadn't canceled and --

15 MR. WOODY: O-G-E-N --

16 MS. BUELL: No.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: A-G- --

18 MS. BUELL: So, I am telling you this story
19 so that you realize that the captains, each make
20 their own decision, and it is usually the right
21 decision. I mean, it always has been the right
22 decision. Whatever they decide is right. So,
23 whether to go or whether to stay. There are many,
24 many days when we don't go or one boat might not go.
25 One day we were out there with all three boat loads
26 had one company on it. I think it might have been
27 the Smoker, okay. And we were all out there but the
28 seas were a little rough for fishing. And one of
29 the boats, or Tron, the people on the Norwester, the
30 lady that led it wanted to go back. And so Tron
31 took her back. And we refunded their money.

32 And the other two boats stayed out there
33 and my passengers, who signed up again, they were
34 quite upset with that lady, because it turned out to
35 be a wonderful day fishing. The sea settled down
36 after about an hour and it was great. And they all
37 caught all their fish and those, 15 people or 20
38 whatever it was on the Norwester, it was pretty
39 loaded, came back and most of them wouldn't probably
40 have made that decision, but, their leader had made
41 it and they were pretty unhappy with her. But, he
42 came back. That is the whole thing. They said, no,
43 we want to go back, and he said, okay, now don't do
44 that if a person is sick or something, you know,
45 sick, I have been sick. I would give anything, we
46 have had people try to buy boat to bring it back.
47 So, we don't do that. Everybody on the boat has to
48 say, yeah. No, I am not kidding, they have. And we
49 say, no, I am sorry. You might try not drinking the
50 night before.

51 MR. WOODY: Okay. How does Siggy G compare
52 to say the Taki Too?

53 MS. BUELL: I think they are pretty similar,

1 actually.
2 MR. WOODY: You do.
3 MS. BUELL: Yeah. I mean, they don't look a
4 lot alike, but they both have that flybridge.
5 MR. WOODY: Okay.
6 MS. BUELL: And I think they are --
7 MR. WOODY: The same length.
8 MS. BUELL: I think there is, the D&D, the
9 Cary Lynn, all the D&D boats, used to be four of
10 them. That is one my, my father-in-law ran, and
11 then my son brought it and took it down to San Diego
12 for a dive boat and ran a business there for awhile.
13 I think it is still there. The D&D, the Cary Lynn,
14 the Siggy and the Taki, I think they are all the
15 same length. And maybe the Andrew K might be the
16 same length.
17 MR. WOODY: Okay.
18 MS. BUELL: And I am not sure what the Taki
19 is. But, I think it might be 30, just 38. Now you,
20 guys, know that the document says 32, but it was
21 extended, my son explained that to me, when they
22 made the mold, and they got documents for 32 and
23 then they decided to extend it, three or four feet,
24 or whatever, three feet, at 35.10 or whatever. So,
25 that why the document reads different than what it
26 is actually is. So, nobody has ever bothered to
27 change it. I pointed it out to my husband last
28 year, I said, shouldn't I get the right length in
29 her, and says, oh, that is just the way the Coast
30 Guard does it. There is no point in doing it.
31 Sorry.
32 MR. WOODY: So, it is about 35, 36.
33 MS. BUELL: Yeah, we call it a 36 footer
34 because it close to 36 than 35.
35 MR. WOODY: Now this is which boat?
36 MS. BUELL: The Taki.
37 MR. WOODY: The Taki Too?
38 MS. BUELL: Yes. And I think they say the
39 same about the D&D, I think it says 32 also, because
40 I noticed it in the documents when you were getting
41 the documents, we certified in doing our surveys and
42 stuff. Which I guess, we brought you a copy of the
43 survey here, that we just did this year.
44 MR. WOODY: Okay.
45 MS. BUELL: All the boats were surveyed this
46 year, all four of them.
47 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you have plans to
48 -- on all the boats. Did you ever keep them or --
49 MS. BUELL: We have a lot of stuff on the
50 Taki Too and the D&D. There might be some in the
51 files. I can look. Does somebody want to give me a
52 pen and pencil so I can, or a piece of paper, so I
53 can write down what you want?

1 (Pause.)
2 MS. BUELL: Okay. You would like documents
3 or plans.
4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.
5 MS. BUELL: I think, you know, Tron gets a
6 lot plans off of the Internet, you might try that.
7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Is the original
8 engine on the Taki Too?
9 MS. BUELL: I don't believe so. I know he
10 does put in a very nice, stronger engine, the John
11 Deere. I can't tell you which kind it is, what John
12 Deere what.
13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.
14 MS. BUELL: I know the engine is a lot newer
15 than most engines in most boats.
16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.
17 MS. BUELL: Most, you know, most boats.
18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Any information on
19 that.
20 MS. BUELL: Okay.
21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The engine.
22 MS. BUELL: I know it is a John Deere.
23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When it was installed
24 and all of that.
25 MS. BUELL: Yeah. It was since Doug had it.
26 And before we got it but, I was always impressed by
27 how nice the engine looked when we were looking at
28 it to buy it.
29 What is the other thing you said you
30 wanted? Oh, I know, canceled days.
31 MR. WOODY: Canceled trips.
32 MS. BUELL: Canceled days.
33 MR. WOODY: It would be best if you could
34 specify years. Can we get that the same for, this
35 year and two years back?
36 MS. BUELL: Probably. I mean, I have got
37 it. Do you want me to give you the whole year?
38 Because it is hard to look through all of that,
39 yeah, I will try to do that, two years. Just the
40 canceled day logs.
41 MR. WOODY: Okay.
42 MS. BUELL: Okay.
43 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- purchasing --
44 also.
45 MS. BUELL: For what?
46 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Anything, anything
47 brought say within the six months. You had a fire,
48 right.
49 MS. BUELL: Yes, this was \$15,000.00 --
50 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Itemized in one --
51 MS. BUELL: Yeah, Jim's Electronic did it
52 and I believe it is still sitting right there on my
53 desk. Yeah, yeah, and then there is an itemized

1 list I gave the insurance company.
2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.
3 MS. BUELL: Of all the parts that we put on.
4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. If we could get
5 a copy of that.
6 MS. BUELL: All that kind of stuff. Okay.
7 Electronics --
8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Anything, bilge
9 pumps, bilge electrical system, any repairs done on
10 that?
11 MS. BUELL: No, because that wasn't in the
12 cabin, the bilge pump is in the cabin. It was all
13 inside the cabin.
14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Have you had
15 any work done on the bilge pumps? Your husband said
16 he did most of the work.
17 MS. BUELL: He does all of the work.
18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All of the work,
19 okay.
20 MS. BUELL: If you put in a bilge pump, ask
21 him.
22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Electronics.
23 MS. BUELL: No, he doesn't do any of that --
24 So, sorry.
25 (End of tape.)